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CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany REPORT  
TOPIC Merseburg AirfieldEVALUATION                      PLACE OBTAINED                      25X1DATE OF CONTENT                     DATE OBTAINED                      DATE PREPARED 4 February 1954REFERENCES                     PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)                     REMARKS                     

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Merseburg airfield between 23 December 1953 and 7 January 1954:

23 and 24 December. There was no air activity. The ceiling was closed and visibility was limited to 500 meters.

25 December. Between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., local individual flights were made by MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s. There was a closed ceiling.

29 December. Between 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m., two MiG-15s were observed aloft. There was a closed ceiling and good visibility.

30 December to 4 January. No air activity was observed.

5 January. Between 11:10 a.m. and 3:45 p.m., local flights were made by MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s,                      There were no clouds. 25X1

7 January. No air activity was observed throughout the day. There was a closed cloud base and poor visibility. The three hangars were fully occupied by aircraft. Besides, about 35 MiG-15s were parked on the field, including some parked in the revetments.

Since 26 December, the alert flight has not been observed on its usual dispersal area or at any other site at the field.

Between 23 December and 7 January, there was almost no activity observed at the field. Even on those days when flying was practiced, no other activity was conducted at the field. The runway was covered with snow about 3 cm deep. The aircraft took off and landed on the snow-covered runway and whirled clouds of snow. The runway lights were switched on during the take-offs.

2. In addition to air force soldiers, also personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets were observed at the field.<sup>1</sup> The previously reported radio installations and radar stations were located at their previous sites.<sup>2</sup> Trucks                      25X1  
                     were observed entering and leaving the field.

1. Comment. It is believed that Merseburg airfield is still occupied by a fighter regiment. Since November 1953, a total of up to 48 MiG-15s have been counted at the field. According to the present report, the three hangars were fully occupied by aircraft, in addition to the 35 MiG-15s observed in the open. No information has been received from other airfields explaining the increase of aircraft at Merseburg airfield. No observations have been made at Merseburg airfield indicating a change in the equipment with flight safety or aircraft control sets. Therefore, it is still believed possible that the MiG-15 crates which arrived from the USSR in October 1953 were dispatched to Merseburg.                      25X1


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2.  Comment. One PKV-45 DF station, 2 landing beacons, 1 token-type radar set, and 1 Kniferest-type radar set are believed to be located at Herseburg airfield.

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